

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
a pair of sheet transporting members having  
rotary shafts provided coaxially with each other  
5 along a cross direction perpendicular to a transport  
direction of a sheet, and rotatively driven  
independently of each other to thereby transport the  
sheet;  
detecting means extending along the cross  
10 direction for detecting a transported state of the  
sheet transported by said pair of sheet transporting  
members; and  
control means for controlling said pair of  
sheet transporting members on the basis of detection  
15 information of said detecting means to correct a  
sheet position in said cross direction and a skew  
feed posture of the sheet relative to the transport  
direction.
- 20 2. An image forming apparatus according to  
Claim 1, wherein said control means provides a  
transporting speed difference between said pair of  
sheet transporting members.
- 25 3. An image forming apparatus according to  
Claim 1, wherein said detecting means is a line  
sensor arranged parallel to said cross direction, and

a size of a detectable area in said cross direction by said line sensor is larger than a size in said cross direction of at least an area through which the transporting sheet passes.

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4. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said detecting means is disposed upstream of said pair of sheet transporting members with respect to the transport direction of the sheet.

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5. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said detecting means is disposed downstream of said pair of sheet transporting members with respect to the transport direction of the sheet.

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6. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said control means controls said pair of sheet transporting members to correct a deviation of the sheet in the cross direction simultaneously with correcting a deviation of the sheet in a skew feed direction.

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7. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising calculating means for calculating, on the basis of the detection information of said detecting means, a movement direction and a movement amount of the sheet in said

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cross direction relative to a normal transported position, and a skew feed direction and a skew feed amount.

5           8. An image forming apparatus according to  
Claim 7, wherein said calculating means calculates  
the skew feed direction and the skew feed amount  
after correcting a deviation in the cross direction  
of the sheet to thereby calculate a total skew feed  
10 direction and a total skew feed amount, and said  
control means controls said pair of sheet  
transporting members to correct a deviation in the  
skew feed direction of the sheet on the basis of said  
total skew feed direction and said total skew feed  
15 amount.